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Poland

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Poland worries over Classical Swine Fever outbreak in Slovakia

2008

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Report Highlights:

Poland imported 2,500 hogs from Slovakia just before its latest outbreak of Classical Swine Fever (CSF). The Polish Veterinary Service (PVS) strictly monitors farms into which hogs are imported and it quickly banned movement of hogs off the Polish farms that bought the Slovakian hogs. According to the PVS, right now it appears the hogs imported in early April 2008 did not originate from areas affected by the recent CSF outbreak in Slovakia.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
Warsaw [PL1]
[PL]

According to information broadcast by Poland public television, Channel 1, on April 16, 2008, Poland has imported 2,500 feeder hogs from the areas affected by recent outbreaks of classical swine fever (CSF) in Slovakia in the last few days.

The Polish Veterinary Service (PVS) strictly monitors imports of feeder hogs from Slovakia, and reports it has successfully tracked the animals. All Polish farms in provinces of Lublin and Lodz into which the hogs were imported are under supervision of the local veterinary service. The PVS has banned movement of hogs off the farms.

According to PVS contacts the TV was not too precise about the hogs from Slovakia. The last outbreak took place in early March 2008, which means that the 21 day period of potential infection is over. The hog shipments from Slovakia took place between April 3–11 and, contrary to early Polish press reports, the Slovak shipments originated from regions **not affected** by the CSF outbreak.

Slovakia struggles with CSF outbreaks in hogs due to the continued presence of CSF in the wild boar population. Boars occasionally transmit diseases to the farm hog population. However, the proximity of outbreaks to the Polish borders creates a threat of a potential outbreak in Poland. The Polish Veterinary Service so far seems capable and professional in tracking the problem and managing the risk on its borders. The local press is reporting that the European Union banned exports of hogs from Slovakia to other EU member states as of April 15.

Please note that in November 2007 Poland became eligible to export fresh and frozen pork to the United States.